



COPY

BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE

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In the matter of the appeal of

JEFFREY S. KRUEGER

COMPLAINT

.....

TO THE HONORABLE, THE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE  
COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE:

Now comes ALFONSO MORALES, Chief of the Police Department of the City of Milwaukee, and makes the following charges against POLICE SERGEANT JEFFREY S. KRUEGER, who, on May 21, 2018, was ordered to be suspended for ten (10) working days without pay and participate in an employee improvement plan.

**CORE VALUE 4.00 – LEADERSHIP:** We seek to influence human behavior to achieve organizational goals that serve the public while developing individuals, teams and the organization for future service. We accept our responsibility to be leaders, both within the community and among our peers, and for the actions of our colleagues and ourselves. We are all responsible for the performance, reputation and morale of the department.

**REFERENCING: GUIDING PRINCIPLE 4.04:** Supervisors shall be role models for delivering truly professional, impartial and effective police service. Supervisors shall ensure that the individuals for whom they are responsible carry out their professional duties correctly. Supervisors must put the department's mission first, in both word and action, and do nothing to interfere with its accomplishment.

**SPECIFICATION:** On January 26, 2018, Police Officer Joseph GRAMS observed a vehicle parked illegally across two handicap parking spaces at the Walgreen's Pharmacy parking lot at 2625 West National Avenue. Officer GRAMS subsequently had contact with the operator of the vehicle, identified as Mr. Sterling BROWN, who had just walked out of the pharmacy and toward his vehicle. Officer GRAMS requested another squad car to assist him during his contact with Mr. BROWN because of a brief verbal altercation. Police Sergeant Jeffrey S. KRUEGER responded to assist Officer GRAMS and took over the investigation. He prevented Officer GRAMS from conducting his investigation to conclusion and allowed the situation to escalate.

Officers believed Mr. BROWN was in possession of a firearm based upon the observation of shooting targets in the vehicle. Mr. BROWN was subsequently placed into custody after he refused to comply with a directive to remove his hands from his pockets and became resistive towards officers. Officers utilized force on Mr. BROWN by decentralizing him to the ground and eventually an Electronic Control Device was deployed to control him prior to his arrest. Mr. BROWN was not found to be armed.

Pursuant to a PI-21 interview, Sergeant KRUEGER stated he "learned" from this incident that he could have delegated tasks to officers at the scene to better manage the responsibilities in this investigation, including a comprehensive briefing with Officer GRAMS regarding the initial incident, a detailed interview of Mr. BROWN or his passenger regarding why they were at Walgreens and the request of a consent search of his vehicle, and scene management inside of the Walgreen's pharmacy to determine if a crime had indeed been committed. Additionally, Sergeant KRUEGER acknowledged that he could have improved communication with other supervisors on scene to have clear and manageable objectives.

Sergeant KRUEGER stated that he is a newer supervisor and is "transitioning" into his role.

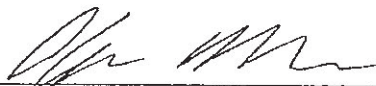
Police Sergeant Jeffrey S. KRUEGER failed to sufficiently role model effective police service and ensure the mission of the department was successfully accomplished by not properly taking control of the situation within his supervisory capacity during this incident. Sergeant KRUEGER had an obligation to exercise oversight and management of the initial responding police resources as well as obtain all relevant facts from the initiating officer before taking over the investigation. His failure in not allowing the initiating officer to conduct his investigation and resolve it with a citation as prescribed by the violation in question led to the escalation of force that concluded with eight officers using force and a citizen being tased. Effective leadership displayed by proper supervision is essential during officer citizen contacts when confrontation arises and helps to lead to more positive outcomes for officers and citizens like Mr. BROWN.

\* \* \* \* \*

A copy of Personnel Order No. 2018-60 concerning the disciplinary action I have taken against Police Sergeant Jeffrey S. KRUEGER is attached.

In the interest of public welfare, good order of the City, and for the good of the police service, the disciplinary action I have taken against Police Sergeant Jeffrey S. KRUEGER is required, such disciplinary action being set forth in Department Personnel Order No. 2018-60.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2018.



ALFONSO MORALES  
CHIEF OF POLICE

AM:rls  
Attachment (1)